

**1999
WESTERN
AUSTRALIA
AT A
GLANCE**



WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Capital city: Perth, founded 12 August 1829
Time: Western Standard Time, eight hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time

Approximate distances by air from Perth to other capital cities in Australia (kilometres)

Canberra	3 300	Brisbane	4 100	Hobart	3 400
Sydney	3 400	Adelaide	2 200	Darwin	2 900
Melbourne	2 800				

Population		1995	1996	1997
Estimated resident population (ERP) at 30 June —				
Western Australia —				
Males	'000	869.5	887.9	904.4
Females	"	861.6	877.9	893.7
Persons	"	1 731.2	1 765.7	1 798.1
Perth Statistical Division	"	1 262.2	1 295.1	1 319.0
Rest of State	"	469.0	470.6	479.2

Census Population		1986	1991	1996
Age groups (proportion of population) —				
Under 15 years	%	24.2	23.6	22.4
15–19 years	"	8.6	7.8	7.4
20–59 years	"	54.0	54.9	56.2
60–64 years	"	3.9	3.9	3.6
65 years and over	"	9.3	9.9	10.4

Birthplace (proportion of population) —				
Australia	%	70.9	69.2	68.3
Europe —				
UK and Ireland	"	13.8	13.6	12.4
Italy	"	2.0	1.7	1.5
Other	"	4.3	4.2	2.4
Asia	"	3.6	4.7	4.1
New Zealand	"	1.8	2.2	2.3
Other	"	3.7	4.4	9.0

Major urban centres —				
Albany	No.	16 316	18 826	20 493
Bunbury	"	23 031	24 003	24 945
Geraldton	"	21 726	24 361	25 243
Kalgoorlie-Boulder	"	22 232	25 016	28 087
Mandurah	"	14 699	23 343	35 945
Perth	"	883 716	1 018 702	1 096 829
Port Hedland	"	13 069	11 344	12 846

Vital statistics		1995	1996	1997
Live Births registered	No.	25 139	24 793	24 776
Deaths registered	"	10 361	11 027	10 807
Marriages registered	"	10 404	10 294	10 456
Divorces granted	"	5 040	4 959	5 046

Crude rate (per 1 000 mean ERP) —				
Births		14.4	14.1	13.8
Deaths		6.0	6.3	6.0
Marriages		6.0	5.8	5.8
Divorces		2.9	2.8	2.8

Education (a)		1996	1997	1998
Government —				
Schools	No.	764	767	764
Students, full-time	"	224 714	226 075	226 583
Non-government —				
Schools	"	255	264	264
Students, full-time	"	82,092	85,002	87 444

(a) as at 31 July

Average weekly earnings: Nov (a)		1996	1997	1998
Males	\$	690.00	721.20	736.60
Females	"	415.00	415.70	413.00
Persons	"	554.30	564.20	572.50

(a) Total earnings, Trend

Labour force: Nov (a)		1996	1997	1998
Total labour force —	'000	918.5	933.1	959.2
Employed persons	"	848.4	868.1	891.3
Unemployed persons	"	70.1	65.0	67.9
Unemployment rate	%	7.6	7.0	7.1

(a) Trend

Industry of employed persons: Nov		1996	1997	1998
Agriculture, forestry, etc	'000	46.0	46.4	45.8
Mining	"	33.5	28.6	31.1
Manufacturing	"	90.7	85.2	91.8
Electricity, gas & water	"	7.6	6.4	6.9
Construction	"	71.5	73.9	62.7
Wholesale and retail trade	"	171.6	178.8	179.4
Accommodation, cafe &	"	37.2	39.8	40.7
Transport and storage	"	37.9	37.6	41.1
Communication	"	16.3	14.4	14.5
Finance, insur, property &	"	115.9	116.1	129.2
Government admin & defence	"	27.5	33.8	35.8
Education	"	60.2	65.1	65.8
Health & community services	"	74.1	80.7	82.3
Culture, recreation & personal	"	51.7	60.1	61.3

State Government Finance		1994–95	1995–96	1996–97
Current outlays —	\$m	6 359	6 862	6 947
Final consumption expenditure	"	4 189	4 584	4 388
Interest payments	"	1 042	1 063	983
Other current outlays	"	1 128	1 216	1 576
Capital outlays —	"	1 138	587	1 698
Gross fixed capital expenditure	"	1 087	1 410	1 572
Other capital outlays	"	50	-824	126
Total Revenue —	"	7 571	8 107	7 953
Taxes, fees and fines	"	2 549	2 679	2 751
Net operating surpluses of public trading enterprises	"	735	693	1 092
Interest received	"	204	321	381
Grants received	"	3 368	3 737	3 173
Other revenue	"	714	678	556
Financing transactions —	"	-74	-658	692
Borrowing (net)	"	-36	167	142
Other financing transactions	"	-38	-824	550

Housing finance: Owner occupied		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Secured finance commitments to individuals for —				
Construction of dwellings	\$m	1 015.1	979.1	1 210.8
Purchase of —				
Newly erected dwellings	"	157.3	199.3	227.7
Established dwellings (a)	"	4 363.9	4 870.2	5 045.0
Alterations and additions	"	349.5	268.4	283.2

(a) includes refinancing.

Average retail prices of food		1996	1997	1998
Perth, December quarter —		(cents)	(cents)	(cents)
Milk carton, supermarket sales	1 litre	125	135	135
Cheese, processed, sliced wrapped	500 g	336	337	335
Butter	"	199	191	196
Bread, white loaf, sliced	680 g	174	187	196
Rump steak	1 kg	1 051	1 052	1 018
Silverside, corned	"	646	636	686
Lamb, leg	"	614	579	589
Chicken, frozen	"	338	368	349
Bacon, middle rashers	250 g pkt	336	351	359
Sausages	1 kg	398	428	398
Potatoes	1 kg	124	120	135
Tomatoes	"	349	311	398
Eggs	55 g 1 doz	257	263	246
Sugar, white	2 kg	216	233	254
Tea	250 g	198	231	264
Coffee, instant	150 g jar	559	656	679
Margarine, poly-unsaturated	500 g	159	149	169

Consumer Price Index		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Perth				
Base: 1989-90 = 100.0				
Food		116.8	121.0	122.9
Clothing		107.0	106.2	106.2
Housing		100.9	96.4	89.1
Household equipment and operation		111.2	113.1	113.6
Transportation		123.4	122.4	121.4
Tobacco and alcohol		145.9	152.2	155.2
Health and personal care		138.6	146.8	147.0
Recreation and education		114.1	116.0	118.7
All groups		116.7	118.3	118.0

Building		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
New residential buildings —				
Approved	No.	15 738	15 646	18 354
Completed	"	17 447	14 342	16 131
Value of new residential buildings —				
Approved	\$m	1 421	1 525	1 856
Completed	"	1 642	1 430	1 709
Total value of buildings —				
Approved	"	2 387	2 902	2 943
Completed	"	2 618	2 496	3 023

Mining (source ABARE)		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Production —				
Iron ore	'000t	143 489	150 711	155 485p
Crude oil	megalitres	9 676	15 974	17 561p
Gold	kilograms	206 490	227 040	240 510p
Natural gas	gigalitres	16 766	16 713	18 004p
Diamonds	'000ct	42 565	37 120	43 046

Manufacturing		1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Persons employed as at 30 June	'000	73.8	72.3	73.4
Turnover	\$m	15 246	15 750	16 815

Foreign trade		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Imports	\$m	6 290	6 815	8 609
Exports	"	18 843	19 331	22 764
Exports to —				
Japan	\$m	4 815	4 840	5 391
U.K.	"	954	435	868
Singapore	"	1 076	1 183	1 308

Imports from —				
Japan	\$m	859	882	1 012
U.S.A.	"	1 260	1 178	1 248
United Kingdom	"	375	390	472

Major commodities exported —				
Iron ore	\$m	2 843	3 149	3 766
Wool	"	694	645	654
Wheat	"	1 826	1 616	1 601
Gold bullion	"	3 266	3 044	4 508
Petroleum & petroleum products	"	1 589	1 943	2 047

Agriculture		1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Gross value of production —				
Wheat for grain	\$m	1 307.4	1 812.0	1 621.1
Livestock slaughterings and other disposals		624.2	684.1	685.1
Total agriculture	"	3 861.4	4 489.2	4 196.4
Livestock at 31 March —				
Cattle for —				
Milk	'000	126.0	120.9	121.9
Meat	"	1 773.1	1 802.8	1 786.8
Sheep and lambs	"	30 217.9	29 834.0	27 821.1
Pigs	"	316.4	313.6	297.4

Production —				
Wheat for grain	'000	5 438	6 827	7 516
Wool	"	176	161	160
Beef and veal	"	97	97	92
Mutton and lamb	"	72	63	88
Pigmeat	"	35	37	39

Tourism		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Total Overseas Arrivals	No.	699 380	763 410	814 000
Total Overseas Departures	"	689 300	747 390	810 300
Short term visitor arrivals by air —				
Indonesia	"	30 120	51 600	34 370
Japan	"	49 260	33 880	32 090
New Zealand	"	24 200	26 420	26 320
Singapore	"	64 690	63 950	73 120
United Kingdom & Ireland	"	59 220	69 460	80 930
All countries	"	361 180	397 290	400 810

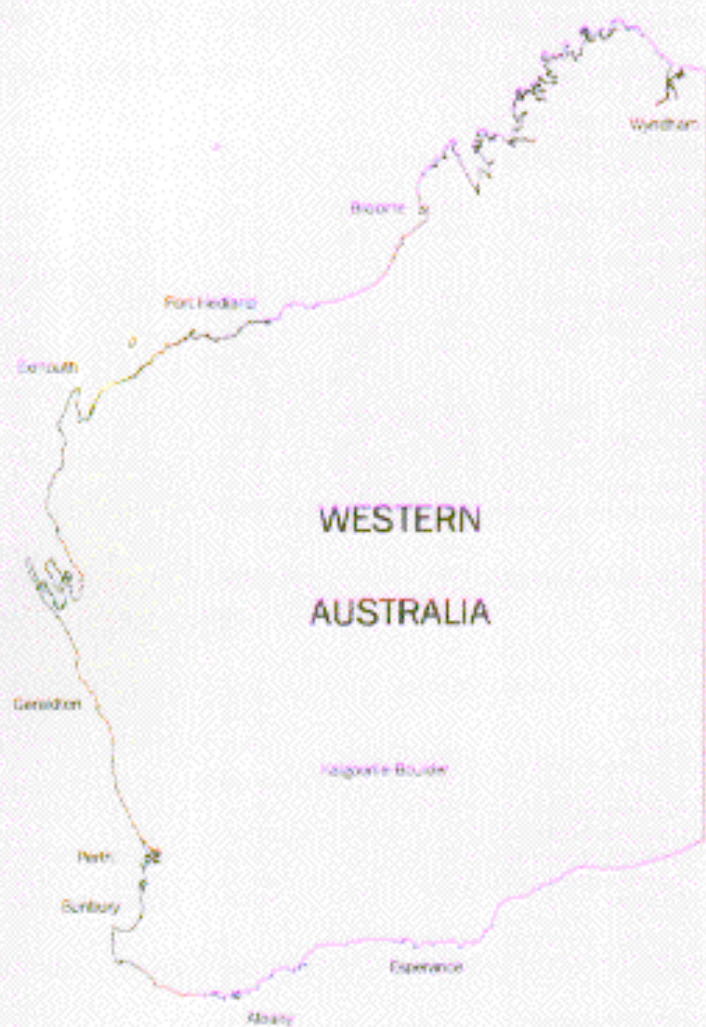
Transport (a)		1995	1996	1997
New motor vehicles registrations —				
Motor cars and station wagons	No.	52 094	51 319	56 984
Motor cycles	"	2 355	2 441	2 692
Other	"	12 861	13 162	13 035
Total	"	67 310	66 922	72 711
Vehicles on register —				
Motor cars and station wagons	No.	855 129	880 865	911 887
Motor cycles	"	37 440	37 590	39 181
Other	"	286 243	293 340	302 658
Total	"	***	1 211 786	1 253 726

(a) For 1995, Vehicles on Register is at 31 May.

For 1996 and 1997, Vehicles on Register is at 2 November.

Western Australia in relation to Australia

		Date or period	Western Australia	Per cent of Australian total
Area	'000 sq km	..	2 526	32.9
Coastline	km	..	12 500	34.0
Demography —				
Estimated resident population	'000	30 Jun 1998	1 831.4	9.7
Births registered	No.	"	24 776	9.8
Deaths registered	"	"	10 807	8.3
(including infant deaths)	"	"	10 456	9.8
Marriages registered	"	"	5 046	9.8
Divorces granted	"	"		
Labour force —				
Employed persons	'000	Mar 1999	893.0	10.2
Unemployed persons	"	"	67.6	9.7
Agriculture —				
Gross value of production	\$m	1996-97	4 196	14.9
Area of establishments	'000 ha	"	112 482	24.1
Wheat for grain —				
Area	'000 ha	"	4 264	39.0
Production	'000	"	7 516	32.8
Wool	"	"	160	23.3
Manufacturing —				
Persons employed	'000	1996-97	73.4	7.8
Turnover	\$m	"	16 815.0	8.1
Foreign Trade—				
Imports	\$m	1997-98	8 609	9.5
Exports	"	"	22 764	25.9



For inquiries . . .

DIAL-A-STATISTIC

For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074.
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